

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10-13, 17 and 18 are pending in the present application, Claims 1, 7, 13, and 18 having been amended. Support for the amendments is believed to be self-evident from the original description. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, the specification was objected to; Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10-13, 17 and 18 were objected to; Claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101; and Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10-12, 17 and 18 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten to overcome the claim objection set forth in the Office Action.

With respect to the objection to the specification, the specification is amended to provide an antecedent basis for the claimed computer readable storage medium of amended Claim 13. Applicant respectfully submits that this is supported by the disk storage device 30 shown in Figure 1, and the removable disk discussed at page 1, lines 8-9 of the originally filed specification. Accordingly, the objection to the specification should be withdrawn.

With respect to the objections to Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10-13, 17, and 18, the objections noted in the outstanding Office Action are corrected. Accordingly, these grounds of objections should be withdrawn.

With respect to the rejection of Claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. §101, Applicant respectfully submits that the amendment to Claim 13 overcomes this ground of rejection. Claim 13 is amended to recite “a computer readable storage medium.” A computer readable storage medium is described in the specification, for example see the description of Figure 1 and disk storage 30, which stores programs that operate the system.¹

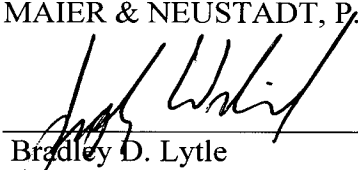
¹ Specification, page 7, lines 6-9.

If a claim defines a useful machine or manufacture by identifying the physical structure of the machine or manufacture in terms of its hardware or hardware and software combination, it defines a statutory product. See, e.g., *Lowry*, 32 F.3d at 1583, 32 USPQ2d at 1034-35; *Warmerdam*, 33 F.3d at 1361-62, 31 USPQ2d at 1760. Thus, amended Claim 13 defines statutory subject matter.

As no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for formal allowance, and it is respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Bradley D. Lytle
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 40,073

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 08/07)

Joseph Wrkich
Registration No. 53,796